(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the allocations made/proposed to be made for the development of these sites?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of identified sites in the country including the State of Gujarat is a continuous process. Department of Tourism, Govt. of India provides funds for tourism-related projects identified every year in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations. 53 projects have been approved for the State of Gujarat in the last three years.

(c)

Year	No. of projects approved	Amount sanctioned (Rupees in lakhs)
1999-2000	23	407.64
2000-2001	19	510.85
2001-2002	11	315.50

Preservation of heritage structures and museums of Kabul

4353. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India proposed to help Kabul to preserve their Heritage structures and reconstruct museums;

(b) if so, the planning made in this regard; and

(c) the allocations made therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) to (c) As per information gathered from the Ministry of External Affairs, the Government of India is committed to assist the Government of Afghanistan in the field of preservation of heritage structures and museums.

Security and maintenance of historical and culturally important places

†4354. SHRI DEVI PRASAD SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) the manner in which arrangements are made by Government for security and maintenance of historical inheritance and places of cultural importance all over the country;

(b) whether expert groups are appointed for these places;

(c) the number of sites identified recently by Government from where historical information are likely to be acquired; and

(d) the initiatives being taken by Government in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) In addition to the regular Watch & Ward by the staff of Archaeological Survey of India, the State Police, private security and the Central Industrial Security Force have also been deployed for guarding certain selected monuments. The Archaeological Survey of India also carry out regular structural repairs, chemical treatment and environmental development on all protected monuments as per Archaeological norms.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The Government has identified six promising sites of historical information namely, Arikamedu (Pondicherry), Salimgarh (Delhi), an ancient mound at Khajuraho (Madhya Pradesh), Gingee (Tamil Nadu) the ancient site at Thanesar (Haryana) and Sudh Mahadev in Jammu and Kashmir for further excavation in the coming field season.

Rationalisation of Export

4355. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement made by the DGFT captioned "DGFT for rationalisation of export props post-VAT" which appeared in Indian Express dated the 13th April, 2002;

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(c) the details of the schemes which are likely to be simplified/merged; and

(d) what would be the likely implication of these measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Once a national